

IN THE CLAIMS:

[c1] (Currently amended) A threaded pipe connection comprising:  
a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one direction;  
a box member having internal threads increasing in width in an opposite direction so that complementary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection; and  
a wear indicator that extends from ~~for the connection disposed on~~ at least one of the group consisting of a shoulder of the box member and a shoulder of the pin member.

[c2] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the wear indicator is disposed on the pin member.

[c3] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the wear indicator is disposed on the box member.

[c4] (Currently Amended) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the shoulder of the pin member comprises an external shoulder of the pin member ~~pin member has an external shoulder~~ and the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder of the pin member.

[c5] (Currently Amended) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the shoulder of the box member comprises an external shoulder of the box member ~~box member has an external shoulder~~ and the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder of the box member.

[c6] (Currently Amended) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the shoulder of the pin member comprises an internal shoulder of the pin member ~~pin member has an internal shoulder~~ and the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder of the pin member.

- [c7] (Currently Amended) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the shoulder of the box member comprises an internal shoulder of the box member ~~box member has an internal shoulder~~ and the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder of the box member.
- [c8] (Currently Amended) The threaded connection of claim 1 wherein:  
the pin member has an external shoulder;  
the box member has an external shoulder; and  
the wear indicator extends from ~~is disposed on~~ the external shoulder of the pin member and the external shoulder of the box member.
- [c9] (Currently Amended) The threaded connection of claim 1 wherein:  
the pin member has an internal shoulder;  
the box member has an internal shoulder; and  
the wear indicator extends from ~~is disposed on~~ the internal shoulder of the pin member and the internal shoulder of the box member.
- [c10] (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a connection wear indicator, of indicating connection wear comprising:  
providing a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one direction;  
providing a box member having internal threads increasing in width in an opposite direction so that the complementary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection; and  
providing a wear indicator for the connection that extends from ~~disposed on~~ at least one of the group consisting of a shoulder of the box member and a shoulder of the pin member; and  
~~rotationally engaging the pin member and the box member.~~
- [c11] (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on the pin member.

[c12] (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on the box member.

[c13] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the shoulder of the pin member comprises an external shoulder of the pin member ~~pin member has an external shoulder~~, the method-further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on the external shoulder of the pin member.

[c14] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the shoulder of the box member comprises an external shoulder of the box member ~~box member has an external shoulder~~, the method further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on the external shoulder of the box member.

[c15] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the shoulder of the pin member comprises an internal shoulder of the pin member ~~pin member has an internal shoulder~~, the method further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on the internal shoulder of the pin member.

[c16] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the shoulder of the box member comprises an internal shoulder of the box member ~~box member has an internal shoulder~~, the method further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on the internal shoulder of the box member.

[c17] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the shoulder of the box member comprises an external shoulder of the box member and the shoulder of the pin member comprises an external shoulder of the pin member ~~pin member has an external shoulder and the box member has an external shoulder~~, the method further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on at least one of the external shoulder of the pin member and the external shoulder of the box member.

[c18] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the shoulder of the box member comprises an internal shoulder of the box member and the shoulder of the pin member comprises an internal shoulder of the pin member ~~pin member has an internal shoulder and the box member has an internal shoulder~~, the method further comprising:  
disposing the wear indicator on at least one of the internal shoulder of the pin member and the internal shoulder of the box member.

[c19] (Previously amended) A threaded pipe connection comprising:  
a pin member having external threads increasing in one direction;  
a box member having internal threads increasing in an opposite direction so that complementary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection; and  
means for indicating connection wear.

[c20] (Previously added) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1, wherein wear indicator comprises a circumferential extension.

[c21] (New) A threaded pipe connection comprising:  
a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one direction;  
a box member having internal threads increasing in width in an opposite direction so that complementary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection; and  
a wear indicator that extends from a shoulder of the connection, wherein connection wear is indicated by contact between the wear indicator and the other of the shoulder of the pin member and the shoulder of the box member.

[c22] (New) The threaded pipe connection of claim 21, wherein the wear indicator extends from at least one of the group consisting of a shoulder of the box member and a shoulder of the pin member.

[c23] (New) A method of determining connection wear, comprising:  
rotationally engaging a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one direction and a box member having internal threads increasing in an opposite direction, wherein the complimentary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection, and wherein a wear indicator extends from at least one of the group consisting of a shoulder of the box member and a shoulder of the pin member; and  
inspecting the connection to determine if the wear indicator is in contact with the other of the shoulder of the box member and the shoulder of the pin member, when the connection is made-up.